

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) A method of planting a blade in a tire curing metal mold to fix it, comprising the steps of:
 - manufacturing a portion including at least a blade planting groove of the metal mold by a powder sintering method in which sinterable powders are heated and sintered laminates;
 - forming a stepped portion having a larger width than the width of the above blade planting groove and formed at the bottom side of the blade planting groove; and
 - planting a blade having a bent portion which is integrated with the blade on the planting side and bent at a predetermined angle from the surface of the blade into this planting groove.
2. (original) The method of planting a blade according to claim 1, wherein a cut whose planting side is closed is made on the planting side of the blade, a portion surrounded by the cut portion is bent, and the blade is planted into the planting groove.
3. (currently amended) A tire curing metal mold used in the method of planting a blade according to claim 1-~~or~~2, comprising a portion including at least a blade planting groove manufactured by a powder sintering method in which sinterable powders are heated and sintered laminates and a stepped portion having a larger width than the width of the blade planting groove and formed at the bottom side of the blade planting groove.
4. (original) The tire curing metal mold according to claim 3, wherein a metal or an alloy is infiltrated into the pores of a sintered body constituting the metal mold.
5. (currently amended) A blade used in the method of planting a blade according to claim 1-~~or~~2, having a bent portion which is integrated with the blade, bent at a predetermined angle from the surface of the blade and formed on the planting side of the blade.

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6. (original) The blade according to claim 5, wherein a cut whose planting side is closed is made on the planting side of the blade and a portion surrounded by the cut portion is bent to form the bent portion.